

Open forum  
in March on  
school budget

Holyoke school officials will hold an open forum to discuss their 2020-21 school year budget early next month.

The forum for families and community members is 6-7:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 3, at the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St., Holyoke.

Officials will also hold a forum for staff, 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25, at Holyoke High School's North Campus, 500 Beech St., Holyoke.



Book club  
forming for  
grades 3-5

Children in grades 3-5 and their parents or guardians are invited to join the Bookworm Book Club, which will meet monthly at the Holyoke Public Library to hang out, talk about books, and share snacks.

The first meeting is 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 25. The inaugural selection is "The Wild Robot," by Peter Brown. Copies may be picked up at the circulation desk in the Children's Room in the library at 250 Chestnut St., Holyoke.

Registration is not required, and participation in the book club discussion is free. For more information, email Charlie at cpope@holyokelibrary.org.

Middle  
schoolers can  
join book club

Students in grades 6 and 7 are invited to join the Storycatchers, a monthly book club where they will hang out, talk about books, and — of course — enjoy snacks.

The first subject is "Book Scavenger," by Jennifer Chambliss Bertman, to be discussed 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 26. Copies are available at the library now.

Registration is not required and this event is free. For more information, email Charlie at cpope@holyokelibrary.org. The library is at 250 Chestnut St., Holyoke.

Parish school sale seen as easing traffic



Blessed Sacrament Parish recently sold its closed primary school, at Northampton and Hitchcock streets, to the private Center School.

Photo by Michael Ballway

By Peter Spotts  
pspotts@turley.com

The sale of the old Blessed Sacrament Primary School to the Center School may be the solution to both traffic and education space constraints.

The Center School purchased the building last month for \$875,000. Center School Executive Director John Foley said one of the primary factors behind the purchase is the acquisition of the parking lots, which can allow a bus staging area to relieve the current congestion caused by the buses lining up in preparation for school dismissal.

The Center School works with 27 different school districts, providing students with special education services. It now owns four properties in Holyoke, each with different

focuses for student needs. The Center School main building on Northampton Street currently serves about 70 kids with disabilities and has a pool and therapeutic devices for them. This leads to a larger than usual buildup of school buses.

"The problem with dealing with so many school districts is they each have their own bus. So, at dismissal time there's 40 to 50 buses lined up," Foley said. "On top of that, our lot itself only has room for 75 cars, and so people park on the public street and that infuriates the neighbors. It will be nice to relieve some of that congestion all around."

Foley said it's mainly an afternoon issue. In the mornings, bus arrivals are staggered

See SALE, page 7

Acceptance is goal of  
drag story hour

By Shelby Macri  
smacri@gmail.com

Story time with Mr. Pickle and Friends is a way to promote acceptance and open-mindedness, local drag performers said after their first story hour this week.

"We're not here to push an agenda, there is no agen-

da with us," said Mr. Pickle — also known as Holyoke resident Danielle Pikul. "The only thing I'm here to convey is acceptance, in all ways. Accepting people's religion, jobs, ways of life, and to understand that people are different, but they're still people."

Mr. Pickle was joined by drag pageant performer Xiomarie LaBeija for the inaugural event on Tuesday morning, Feb. 11, at the Holyoke Public Library. Story times will continue on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month, including relevant books, snacks and juice boxes, costumes and dress-up items. All activities are family-friendly.

Each week, Mr. Pickle will welcome a new friend from the drag community to cohost the story hour. Story time is free to participate in, but it requires parents to register at the library's Children's Room.

Pikul's hope was to have at least two children show up for the first event, which featured the books "King & King" by Stern Nijland and "The World Belongs to You" by Riccardo Bozzi. Three attended with their parents.

The program's main goal is to teach inclusivity and acceptance. LaBeija encouraged the kids to engage in the stories that were read.



Mr. Pickle (performer Danielle Pikul), left, and friend Xiomarie LaBeija hold the books they read during the first Mr. Pickle and Friends storytime at the Holyoke Public Library this week.

Photo by Shelby Macri

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State Rep. Aaron Vega, kneeling at right, poses with fellow members of Team ATF at last weekend's row-athon to benefit the National Brain Tumor Society.

Submitted photo / A Nasty Habit Crossfit

Rowers raise \$11K  
to fight brain tumors

By Dalton Zbierski  
dzbierski@turley.com

Brought together by personal tragedies, a local group of CrossFit athletes and politicians garnered the courage to make a difference. Their resiliency was on full display during a Feb. 9 row-athon that raised over \$11,000 for the National Brain Tumor Society.

During last weekend's event at Nasty Habit CrossFit in Holyoke, 10 teams of rowers teamed up to row a total of 42,195 meters. The initiative was organized by state Rep. Aaron Vega, D-Holyoke, who lost his father to a brain tumor a decade ago.

"My father had a brain tumor; he actually battled it for 15 years and had five surgeries over at Mercy Hospital," said Vega. "It's become a thing where I think that people, unfortunately, have a connection to brain tumors; if they've lost somebody or know someone dealing with it now. We came together, and here we are."

Also participating were state Reps. John Velis, D-Westfield, Michael Finn, D-West Springfield, Brain Ashe, D-Longmeadow, Sean Garbally, D-Arlington, Lindsey Sabadosa, D-Northampton,

See ROWERS, page 11



# Love advice from longtime couples

By **Shelby Macri**  
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Friday is Valentine's Day, a day to celebrate love and those who have shared it. Two Holyoke couples whose love has stood the test of time are Jim and Joan Fleming, and Nancy and Victor Goulding. We caught up with Jim Fleming and Nancy Goulding at the Holyoke Senior Center this week to ask how they've made love last for decades, and if they have any advice for the rest of us.

## Jim Fleming

*Q: How long have you and Joan been together?*

A: We've been together 63 years, and it's funny, 'cause she said she would never marry a guy that's younger than her, and I'm a year and a half younger than her. I was born in '37 and she was born in '35. I guess I'm the exception. I was 16 years old when we met and we dated for three years before we got married. I was 19 years old and she was 20 years old when we got married.

*Q: How did you meet?*

A: We met at a house party, a New Year's Eve house party. We lived right around the corner from each other, but we didn't know each other. We didn't meet each other until we were older, what happened was, me and my friend were just walking in town when one of the guys throwing the party invited us over. We decided to go and when we got there my friend asked if I could dance, I said yes, and he asked me to dance with Joan to fix him up. After I danced with her, I had to tell him sorry, 'cause I was staying with her.

*Q: What's the secret to staying together for so long?*

A: Well, I'm a sports guy, I've always loved sports, and I'm always watching. My wife, she wants nothing to do with sports, so when we got married we got a portable television for her. That's no lie, and that helps us, 'cause she can watch what she wants when I'm watching sports.

No unnecessary fights, because we both compromise when we need to.

*Q: What's something romantic you do for each other?*

A: We were together most of the time when we started dating, and even though she didn't like sports, she would come to watch me when I played softball. She didn't know what was going on, but she would see me and cheer anyway.

*Q: How do you settle arguments?*

A: We did have arguments, but they didn't really last long. They would maybe last a day or so, but we really compromised. We would come together, and that was it, we never prolonged anything. That's probably one of the more important things to do in an argument, and any situation.

*Q: What advice would you give to a young couple?*

A: I would tell younger couples not to get married the way we did. We jumped into it and we were young. It can be good to wait, but when we were that young I had a group of guys and she had a group of girls. We would spend time apart, but then her friends said that I stole her away from them by marrying Joan. Within a year, that friend was married, and the next friend was married, so we started it. It was a domino effect for us, but try not to be influenced and try to wait if you can.

*Q: How has marriage changed, from when you first got married to now?*

A: Well, I'm not sure. I guess the biggest thing is that we got older. In the beginning we were together all the time, and when we got older we separated back into a group of guys for me and a group of girls for her. I went to the War Memorial with them and spent time there, when her friends asked if she let me go with the boys she said yes, 'cause I know where he is and what he's doing. My family was very big into board games and cards, her family wasn't, but she likes playing cards. So now we come here and

she plays in the pitch tournaments here, sometime we get matched up with each other, and that's a different story. Now we don't know each other, we're very competitive, but it's good and kept if fun. Plus it's only a card game, we know that, and it's fun. We do everything together at home, and when we're not together I still have her picture in my wallet.

## Nancy Goulding

*Q: How long have you and Victor been together?*

A: We actually just celebrated our anniversary, so we've been together 52 years now. I married him a year after we started dating. We got married in 1968, I was 19 years old and he was 20 years old. We got married and started a family, 'cause that was the goal at the time. We had two kids, one of each, and it's been a good time. I mean, we met in Holyoke, stayed here, started a family here, it's been good.

*Q: How did you meet?*

A: I think I was 18 when I met him, and he's a year and a half older, so he was 19 or so, and we were hanging out with a group of friends. One of those friends included my sister, and we were just riding around looking for more people to hang out with, and things to do. It was very casual. I've known him all my life. I once did the calculations of the time that I spent single and the time that we've been married, and I was married for twice as long as I was single. I don't consider the times before him, we're always together, except for when he's up on the boat, of course. I don't enjoy that.

*Q: What's the secret to staying together for so long?*

A: A lot of compromises and understanding that people are different. He listens to me and he lets me be me, and I let him go up to Maine to relax and spend time on his boat. He retired and earned the right to be up there. I mainly stay here with my mom, I help her out, and when Victor comes back we're together all the

time. So it's knowing to give space, when to give up, when to step away, and when to stay by their side.

*Q: What's something romantic you do for each other?*

A: Well, we have a different kind of relationship, and when we went to work every day, he would think about what he wanted to do when he retired. He had decided that he wanted a sailboat, and he wanted to be able to stay in his family home and see his boat and sail it when he wants. I personally don't like boats, when they tip sideways I just don't like it, and they do that a lot. I help to pay for the docking and the marina, so he can go up to Maine for six months or so, to seal whenever he wants during that time.

*Q: How do you settle arguments?*

A: My theory is that everyone has an opinion, and they're entitled to it. Even when they're wrong, you have to agree to disagree sometimes. You shouldn't get caught up in little moments, because the fights don't last forever, unless you put effort into them. We let the other person be a person, have their opinions and thoughts. We don't always agree, but we listen, and we move on.

*Q: What advice would you give to a young couple?*

A: Oh, there's so many things. I guess I would have to say, "divorce" is a word that ends things, in a way that the word itself will cause a shutdown or change. Don't say the phrase "I want a divorce" unless you mean it. It should never be said as intimidation or in an argument. I never use that word, and neither does he. There have been times where we've been so upset, and not happy with each other, but still, we've never said that word, we refuse.

*Q: How has marriage changed, from when you first got married to now?*

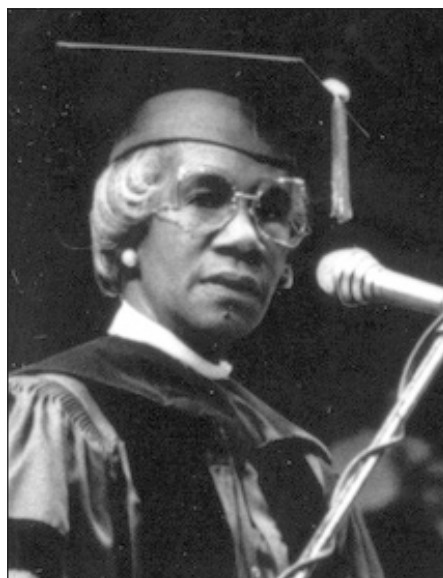
A: Well, at this point in our relationship, when I consider the time that I met him, I count it more as before him. When we met, we were together all the time and it was just him, so all the time before him, that doesn't matter.

## Black history events include film, food

Holyoke Community College will conclude its Black History Month celebrations with a food festival and a free screening of a documentary about Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to the U.S. Congress.

The 2004 documentary "Shirley Chisholm '72: Unbought & Unbossed," will be shown for free at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19, in the Leslie Phillips Theater on the second floor of HCC's Fine and Performing Arts Building, on the main campus at 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke. In addition to being the first black woman elected to Congress in 1968, Chisholm, D-N.Y., was the first black major party candidate to run for president of the United States. She was also HCC's commencement keynote speaker in 1984.

HCC will host a Black Heritage Food Fest 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 27, in the lobby outside the Leslie Phillips Theater on the second floor of the Fine and Performing Arts Building, featuring food prepared for the event by local chefs specializing in southern, Creole, Cajun and other ethnic cuisine. While the food is free for HCC students



**Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to Congress, speaks at Holyoke Community College Commencement in 1984.**

*Submitted photo*

and employees, a suggested donation of \$5 will go toward the creation of a scholarship fund for an active member of the college's Black Student Alliance.

## All invited to help local YMCA honor volunteers

The Greater Holyoke YMCA will hold its annual SneakER Peek event at the YMCA gymnasium on Saturday, March 7.

The night is a family-friendly evening to recognize some outstanding volunteers and celebrate the impact the Y has on the community. All are welcome to come dressed as they are for a sneak peek (sneakers welcome) at the Y and to help kick off the Annual Campaign. This is a free event, but advance registration is requested.

Three awards will be given to volunteers: the Oldershaw Community Service Award, as well as two people being honored with the Distinguished Service Award.

Barbara Baran will receive the Louis F. Oldershaw Community Service Award, which is given to an individual who has made significant volunteer contributions to the Greater Holyoke YMCA and the community at large. Baran is a life-long resident of Holyoke and currently serves as the marketing officer for the Holyoke Credit Union, where she has worked since 2005. She has given of her time over many years in the community to the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce,

Girls Inc., the Rotary Club of Holyoke, United Way, Holyoke Girls Softball and other worthy causes. At the Y, she continues to actively serve on the Financial Development Committee and is a past president of the Y Board.

"Barbara has been an invaluable volunteer to not only our organization but so many other not-for-profits," said Kathy Viens, CEO of the Greater Holyoke YMCA. "She is the person you know will give 100 percent of herself to a cause she believes in. Her energy is infectious."

The Y will also recognize two individuals with the YMCA Distinguished Service Award for volunteer service. The two people who will be honored are Paul Hyry-Dermith and Josh Abrams. Both have been instrumental to the Y. Hyry-Dermith currently serves as chairman of the Y's Membership and Program Committee and is leading the work being done in the area of diversity and inclusion. Abrams serves as chairman of the Y's Property Committee, which has been working feverishly to create a new preschool space for the Y.

The three volunteers will be honored at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, March 7. To register to attend, call 413-534-5631.



# Register now for dog show, pet vendor fair next week

The Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a Dog Show and Pet Vendor Fair from 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, in the Holyoke High School gymnasium at 500 Beech St., Holyoke.

Admission for spectators is free. Owners may enter their dogs in up to two categories of competition for \$5 per entry.

Categories include celebrity look-alike, dog and owner look-alike, best smile, best dog trick, best dressed, fastest tail wagger, fluffiest, pooch that can smooch, most obedient, best groomed, and best in show. Prizes and ribbons will be awarded to the winners, and goodie bags will be given to all canine participants.

To register for the competition, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 413-322-5620, or visit the office on the lower level of City Hall, 536 Dwight St., Holyoke.



# Nominations sought for community service award

The Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts is seeking nominations from throughout Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin and Berkshire counties for the Pynchon Award, which recognizes citizens of this region who have rendered distinguished service to the community.

Nominations are due March 15. Nominators should submit a one-page letter explaining why their nominee should be considered, including biographical information, outstanding accomplishments, examples of service to the community, organizations he or she is or has been active in, and the names, phone numbers and email addresses of at least three people who can further attest to the nominee's eligibility for induction into the Order of William Pynchon.

All nominees will be considered and researched by the Pynchon Trustees, composed of the current and five past presidents of the Advertising Club, which established the award in 1915. Nominations may be sent to William Pynchon Trustees, Advertising Club of Western Massachusetts, P.O. Box 1022, W. Springfield, MA 01090-1022, or [info@adclubwm.org](mailto:info@adclubwm.org).

Pynchon awardees are chosen by unanimous decision of the Pynchon Trustees. This year's recipients will be announced in June, with an awards ceremony scheduled for Oct. 8 at The Log Cabin in Holyoke. Awardees receive a bronze medal bearing the name and likeness of William Pynchon, founder of Springfield, and the inscription "They honor us whom we honor."

# St. Pat's Parade will start earlier for TV broadcast

A pair of small changes have been made to the 69th Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade to accommodate the live broadcast by WWLP-TV.

The parade on Sunday, March 22, will step off from the Kmart Plaza on Northampton Street slightly earlier than usual, at 11:10 a.m. Additionally, the television filming location has moved to the Beech Street side of Holyoke High School, North Campus.

"The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke and WWLP are excited to offer our television and online viewers a different viewing experience," said 2020 Parade President Marc Joyce. "The sight of the thousands of marchers, bands, floats and colleens as they come down the great hill of Beech Street will provide an even more spectacular shot for WWLP's cameras."

The route itself is unchanged, but spectators who usually watch the event along Northampton Street should note the earlier start time. Details of the time change and parade route can be seen at [holyokestpatricksparade.com](http://holyokestpatricksparade.com).

For those who cannot attend in person, the parade will be broadcast live on The CW Springfield, over-the-air Channel 22.2 and Comcast channels 16 and 820. The broadcast will be hosted by 22 News anchors Rich Tettemer and Taylor Knight, along with Hayley Dunn from the St. Patrick's Committee. Barry Kriger, 22 News anchor emeritus, will provide interviews from the parade route with participants and bystanders.

# Science programs at library during February vacation

The Holyoke Public Library's Children's Room will hold several science-related programs next week as part of Engineering Week during the school vacation.

**Maker Space:** 10 a.m. to noon. Tuesday, Feb. 18, and Thursday, Feb. 20. Participants can bring a friend to build, learn and create with the library's new Maker Space. All types of supplies and crafts will be provided; just bring imagination. In the Children's Room on the second floor.

**Meet an Electrical Engineer:** 1:30-3 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 19. Children and teens can learn what it takes to be an electrical engineer and have hands-on fun with STEAM activities such as a tabletop hovercraft. Snacks will be provided. In the Community Room on the

first floor.

**STEM Activities:** 6-8 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20. Children of all ages can join students from Smith College for a hands-on evening of fun science activities, including balloon-powered cars and pasta towers. In the Children's Room on the second floor.

**Ice Cream Science:** 1-2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22. Children ages 8-12 can learn the science behind their favorite frozen treat and will get to make their own. Registration is required at [cpope@holyokelibrary.org](mailto:cpope@holyokelibrary.org), as supplies are limited. In the Community Room on the first floor.

All events are in the library at 250 Chestnut St., Holyoke. Events and materials for Engineers Week were made possible by a grant from [discovere.org](http://discovere.org).

# Holyoke Community College opens 2020-21 scholarship season

The Holyoke Community College Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications for the 2020-21 academic year.

More than \$200,000 in awards is available for incoming, continuing and transferring HCC students. The application deadline is Wednesday, March 25.

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships, which are awarded

through the HCC Foundation, HCC's nonprofit fundraising corporation.

"Scholarships recognize academic achievement, help students overcome financial barriers, and acknowledge that there is more than one path to a college degree," said Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of institutional advancement and executive director of the HCC Foundation. "This is the best time of year for the HCC Foundation, because scholarships help us fulfill our purpose

to expand educational opportunities for HCC students. There is nothing more rewarding — to us and to our donors."

Applicants need only fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships

for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

For the 2019-20 academic year, the HCC Foundation awarded \$223,000 in scholarships to 231 students. For more information or to apply, visit [www.hcc.edu/scholarships](http://www.hcc.edu/scholarships).

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182 or Donahue 170 on the HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke.

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Turley Publications is seeking an energetic person to fill the position of staff writer for two of its weekly publications: the *Ware River News*, which covers Ware, Hardwick and Warren, and the *Quabog Current*, which covers the Brookfields, Sturbridge and New Braintree. This full-time position is based in our Ware office at 80 Main St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills or the enthusiasm to develop them.

The staff writer will cover municipal meetings, features and general news; essentially everything that unfolds in small towns. Assignments will be for both newspapers as well as other companywide publications.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
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# Women’s luncheon series starts Friday, March 27

Women leaders of prominent area institutions will be the featured presenters at the spring 2020 Women’s Leadership Luncheon Series hosted by Holyoke Community College and the Greater Holyoke Chamber of Commerce at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute.

The four-part, monthly Leadership in Your Future 2020 series kicks off Friday, March 27, and continues on April 10, May 8 and June 19.

Each of four presenters will sit at a different table each week and speak on a subject of their choosing. Over the course of the four-session series, they will rotate among the tables so guests have the opportunity to hear all the presentations.

The four presenters are:



Theresa Cooper-Gordon

• Theresa Cooper-Gordon, commissioner, Holyoke Housing Authority (“Self-Determination”)

• Priscilla Kane Hellweg, executive and artistic director, Enchanted Circle



Priscilla Kane Hellweg



Jody Kasper

Theater (“In It for the Long Haul”)

• Jody Kasper, chief of police, City of Northampton (“Rising to the Top”)

• Christina Royal, president, Holyoke Community College (“Leading



Christina Royal

Through Change”)

The luncheons run from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St., Holyoke. Lunch will be prepared and served by students in the HCC Culinary Arts program.

The series will provide an opportunity to learn from women leaders of area institutions and a chance for participants to network with their peers and gain insights on building their own careers.

The cost is \$150 for all four sessions.

Seating is limited. For more information or to reserve a seat, contact Valentyna Semyrog at 413-552-2123 or vsemyrog@hcc.edu.

## Democrats to choose state delegates

Registered Democrats in Holyoke will hold a caucus at 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St., Holyoke.

The caucus will select Holyoke’s representatives to this year’s state convention, which will be held May 30 at the Tsongas Center in Lowell. At the convention, thousands of Democrats from across the state will come together to discuss party business, celebrate successes and prepare for upcoming elections.

The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats in Holyoke. Pre-registered Democrats who are 16 by Feb. 15 will be allowed to participate and run as a delegate or alternate.

Youth, minorities, people with dis-

abilities, and LGBTQ individuals who are not elected as a delegate or alternate may apply to be an add-on delegate at the caucus or at [www.massdems.org](http://www.massdems.org).

“Our caucus is a great opportunity to strengthen our party’s organization and to welcome new participants who are interested in getting involved in our work,” commented Holyoke Democratic City Committee Chairman Ray Drewnowski. He added that it is particularly important that Democrats support each other during an election year.

Those interested in getting involved with the Holyoke Democratic City Committee should contact Drewnowski at [holyokedemocrats@comcast.net](mailto:holyokedemocrats@comcast.net) or visit [www.facebook.com/Holyokedems](http://www.facebook.com/Holyokedems).

## Clothing donations sought to help kids

The Holyoke School Department has warm clothing available for students who need it, and is calling for donations of warm items to help students during the winter months.

Regular school attendance is directly related to academic success. Families are encouraged to prepare for cold weather by ensuring their students have everything they need to stay warm. Those who need help should contact family engagement staff at their school or in the Central Office.

Anyone with warm clothing items to donate may drop them off at the first floor of the Central Office at 57 Suffolk St., Holyoke, during regular business hours. For more information,

contact Jose Bou at [jbou@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:jbou@hps.holyoke.ma.us) or the Family Engagement and the Enrollment Center at 413-534-2000, ext. 1100.



## Holyoke Arrests

*The Holyoke Police Department recorded the following arrests from Feb. 3 to 9. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.*

### Monday, Feb. 3

Wilmar Chum, 29, of 81 Garfield St., Springfield, was arrested at 7:53 p.m. in the police station on a warrant.

Jahman Brangan, 47, of 861 Main St., 1st Floor, Holyoke, was arrested at 9:02 p.m. on Vernon Street and charged with home invasion, impersonating a police officer, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, misdemeanor carrying of a dangerous weapon, and armed and masked robbery.

Jose Alberto Santana, 29, of 216 E. Dwight St., Apt. 207, Holyoke, was arrested at 9:02 p.m. on Vernon Street and charged with home invasion, impersonating a police officer, two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, misdemeanor carrying of a dangerous weapon, and armed and masked robbery.

### Tuesday, Feb. 4

Luis Angel Dalmau-Gonzalez, 44, homeless, was arrested at 5:36 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing, possession of a class B drug, and assault and battery on a police officer.

Raymond Ryu Cortes, 26, of 116 Waldo St., Holyoke, was arrested at 9:29 p.m. on Elm Street on two warrants.

Joe Michael Rodriguez, 27, of 67 Longwood Ave., 1st Floor, Holyoke, was arrested at 9:29 p.m. on Elm Street on two warrants, and also charged with trespassing and possession of a class A drug.

### Wednesday, Feb. 5

Thomas Mattern, 36, of 19 Emerson St., 1st Floor, Chicopee, was arrested at 9:25 a.m. on Elm Street on a warrant, and also charged with trespassing.

Alex Ortiz, 24, of 149 Essex St., Apt. 5L, Holyoke, was arrested at 9:25 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with disorderly conduct.

Daneishalys Rosa-Olivero, 21, of 427 S. Elm St., Apt. 3L, Holyoke, was arrested at 9:25 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with disorderly conduct and interfering with a police officer.

Karrissa Mollison, 38, of 390 High St., Apt. 6, Holyoke, was arrested at 1:43 p.m. on High Street and charged with possession of a class A drug.

Ricardo Aviles, 39, of 180 Oakland St., Apt. 2L,

Springfield, was arrested at 5:04 p.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Mitchell James Lizak, 29, of 2 Henry Road, South Hadley, was arrested at 7:55 p.m. on Resnic Boulevard and charged with driving with a suspended license.

Chelsea Trondle, 28, of 113 Center St., Apt. 14, Ludlow, was arrested at 9:51 p.m. on Interstate 391 on a warrant, and also charged with possession of a class A drug, driving without a license, and failing to stop or yield.

### Thursday, Feb. 6

Juan Luis Enriquez, 39, of 17 Roosevelt Ave., Holyoke, was arrested at 12:59 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Misael N. Martinez-Perez, 29, of 133 Sargeant St., Apt. 3L., Holyoke, was arrested at 12:59 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Zachary E. Boissonneault, 29, of 65 Simone Road, Chicopee, was arrested at 6:28 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with possession of a class A drug, and trespassing.

Jamie M. Garcia, homeless, was arrested at 6:28 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with possession of a class B drug, and trespassing.

Joel Ezekiel Velazquez, 25, of 532 Pleasant St., Apt. 2R, Holyoke, was arrested at 6:39 a.m. on Pleasant Street on three warrants.

Juan G. Perez, 31, of 36 St. Kolbe Drive, Apt. C, Holyoke, was arrested at 7:26 a.m. on Arbor Way on a warrant.

Angel Colon, 27, of 2 Main St., Apt. 4L, South Hadley, was arrested at 9:30 p.m. on High Street on a warrant.

### Friday, Feb. 7

Andrew Elliott Polmatier, 31, homeless, was arrested at 12:35 a.m. on Chestnut Street on a warrant, and also charged with failing to register as a Level 2 or Level 3 sex offender.

Eduardo M. Alvarez Jr., 35, of no known address, Holyoke, was arrested at 1:43 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Francisco Gutierrez, 26, of no known address, Holyoke, was arrested at 2:38 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

James Verdier, 48, of 321 Sargeant St., Apt. 3R, Holyoke, was arrested at 2:38 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Jorge Rivera-Rosado, 38, of 384 Appleton St., Holyoke, was arrested at 10:08 a.m. on High Street and charged with shoplifting.

### Saturday, Feb. 8

Raymond Ryu Cortes, 26, of no known address, Holyoke, was arrested at 1 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Jose Rosa, 35, of 556 S. Bridge St., Apt. 2R, Holyoke, was arrested at 1:29 a.m. on Race Street and charged with driving with a revoked license and possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

Veronica M. Gonzalez, 27, of 30 St. Jerome Ave., Apt. 1R, Holyoke, was arrested at 3:57 p.m. at the Holyoke Mall and charged with shoplifting.

Nelson Concepcion-Aleman, 40, of 27 Dwight St., Apt. 1, Chicopee, was arrested at 4:52 p.m. on Cabot Street and charged with driving with a suspended license.

Jariely T. Vazquez, 29, of 904 Main St., 1st Floor, Holyoke, was arrested at 5:29 p.m. on Elm Street on a warrant.

Jonathan Santiago-Zayas, 29, homeless, was arrested at 7:58 p.m. on Pleasant Street and charged with possession of a class A drug, possession of a class B drug, possession of a class B drug with intent to distribute, assault and battery, disorderly conduct, resisting arrest, driving with a suspended license, negligent driving, receiving a stolen motor vehicle, leaving the scene of personal injury, and three counts of leaving the scene of property damage.

Nicholas Harris, 23, of 149 Lathrop Ave., South Hadley, was arrested at 9:35 p.m. on Northampton Street and charged with trespassing.

### Sunday, Feb. 9

Walbert Alvarez, 42, of 72 Essex St., Apt. 14, Holyoke, was arrested at 2:25 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Reginald Jervis, 31, of 273 Elm St., Holyoke, was arrested at 2:25 a.m. on Elm Street and charged with trespassing.

Rafael Serrano, 31, of 32 Call St., 2nd Floor, Chicopee, was arrested at 2:25 a.m. on Elm Street on a warrant, and also charged with trespassing.

Jazmin Robles, 26, homeless, was arrested at 4:29 p.m. on Elm Street on two warrants.

Vanessa Rene Laflamme, 35, of 52 Bairdcrest Road, Springfield, was arrested at 5:46 p.m. on West Street on five warrants.

Steven Cuoco, 55, homeless, was arrested at 9:23 p.m. on High Street and charged with breaking and entering at nighttime for a felony.



# CLASS ACTION



Mikayla Gamble takes the stand, portraying a victim in the mock trial.



Student Alexandra Valentine portrays an officer on the scene.



District Attorney Anthony Gulluni turned an eighth grade classroom at Sullivan School into a mock trial court last month, using details from a real court case and casting students in the roles of prosecutor, defense, judge and jury. Gulluni and Assistant District Attorney Ingrid Frau are seen with “judge” Jerel Lear and “officer on scene” Olivia Shaughnessy during the Jan. 28 mock trial.

Photos by Adrienne Johnson



District Attorney Anthony Gulluni and Assistant District Attorney Ingrid Frau go over the mock trial as student Jerel Lear acts as the judge for the case.



Jen Rivera watches the trial intently.



Gina Anselmo and Anthony Jennings, community safety and outreach specialists from the DA's office, help run the mock trial.



The class listens as the facts are laid out during the mock trial at Sullivan School on Jan. 28.

## Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice invites grant applications

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is inviting applications for the ninth round of mini grants. For more than 40 years, Carlos Vega fought for social justice in the Holyoke area. In 2010, a small group of family and friends started the fund to support the kind of social justice initiatives that were important to Carlos. The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice awards small grants, typically ranging from \$250 to \$1,000, to individuals and non-profit groups for a specific, one-time program or project that

addresses the basic causes of injustice, fosters change, and promotes self-help and empowerment. The purpose of the grants is to support the efforts of those who are addressing issues of poverty and oppression, particularly for people who are marginalized by society. Previous mini grants have supported a variety of organizations and initiatives including Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holyoke Inc. for the Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative Back to School Event; Care Center for Healthy Meals for Care Center

Students; Don't Take That Receipt for summer educational programming; Granby Public Schools for Mindfulness Materials; Home City Development for the Leaders in Training Program; Massachusetts Jobs with Justice for Youth Organizing for Policy Change Workshops; New Horizons for the Helping Hands Youth Empowerment Program; OneHolyoke CDC for Flats Community Neighbor Circles; and Plunge Arts for the Connect with Arts Project at Girls, Inc. Applications must be received by

March 16, and grants will be awarded on May 8. Grantees are expected to attend the awards ceremony. For further information or to obtain an application, visit [www.carlosvegafund.org](http://www.carlosvegafund.org) or contact Aaron Vega at [carlosvegafund.413@gmail.com](mailto:carlosvegafund.413@gmail.com) or 413-522-0268. The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is administered through the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and is overseen by an advisory committee. Since 2012, the fund has awarded \$48,686 to 33 organizations in the Holyoke area.



Editorial

# Contested race will yield a better senator

Voters in the state Senate district formerly represented by Donald Humason should be glad to have a choice in next month's special election, though perhaps a little disappointed that there are only two candidates.

Just one Democrat and one Republican are on the special primary election ballots for March 3. That's enough to guarantee a contested race in the March 31 general election, but less interest than one would expect for an open seat in a district with a history of continuously re-electing incumbents, covering a collection of towns that have shown they are willing to elect, and re-elect, both Democrats and Republicans. Not to mention the timing of the election—standing alone in March, affording all the state representatives, city councilors, selectmen and School Committee members in the district the opportunity for a “free run” at the state Senate without having to give up re-election to their current seats.

With such a diversity of opinion on display within the two major parties — just look at the wide range of options in this year's Democratic presidential primary, and at the large and varied field for the Republican nomination in 2016 — it would have been nice to see several would-be senators step forward, to present voters with a primary fight in addition to the general election.

Instead, state Rep. John Velis of Westfield staked out his claim early as the front-runner for the Democratic nomination and quickly moved to make himself the prohibitive favorite. Though he only represents one of the district's cities, he's been showing up at community events throughout the region for months — long before he “officially” declared his candidacy.

On the Republican side, it looked for a little while like the party wouldn't have a nominee at all, after decades of GOP representation through Humason and Mike Knapik. Neither state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-Southwick, nor any of the Republican or conservative-leaning town officials in the district seemed interested in the job. John Cain, a Southwick resident and Agawam businessman, instead suspended his 2020 congressional campaign to run for state Senate.

The district has a history of clean-fought elections that nonetheless feature candidates with differing views. That has something to do with the cities and towns that make up the district, with a large mass of urban, liberal voters along the northern tier — Easthampton, Holyoke, Chicopee — and a group of rural, very conservative towns in the southwest-

See RACE, page 7



## Cook up some fun this vacation week

We all know that kids can be picky eaters, especially when it comes to vegetables. This winter vacation why not spend an afternoon or two together in the kitchen, cooking a vegetable-based dish? If the kids had fun making dinner, chances are pretty good that they, at very least, will want to sample some of their creation.

Among my favorite cookbooks are “Recipes from a Kitchen Garden” and “More Recipes from a Kitchen Garden” by Renee Shepherd and Fran Raboff. Both are chock-full of appetizing ways to use veggies, edible flowers and herbs in all sorts of tasty dishes. Surely the kids will be tempted to try “Glazed Carrots with Mint Sauce.” Or, how about the same veggie with a maple and orange glaze? If your kids prefer their vegetables disguised in dessert, these books have you covered as well. Try “Marmalade Carrot Squares,” for a rich, chocolaty surprise. Recipes are arranged by vegetable, so you can easily turn to your child's favorite, or least favorite, should you wish to encourage a broadening of the palate. Both cookbooks are available online at [www.reneesgarden.com](http://www.reneesgarden.com) or by phone 888-880-7228.

If you do end up making one of the above recipes, take out an extra, whole carrot and set it aside for the following science experiment. Here you will teach the kids what the term “biennial” means. It's likely that older children with a bit of gardening experience under their belt will have an idea what an “annual” is. Like a tomato or marigold, an annual completes its life cycle (growing, flowering, fruiting, seed-



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ing and dying) in a single season. They may even have an idea that “perennials,” such as phlox or daylilies return to the same spot in the garden year after year. Although perennials die back to the ground with the arrival of winter, their roots and crown remain alive and send forth new topgrowth come springtime.

“Biennial” has always been a bit more tricky to understand. I like to think of this type of plant as a combination of the above. A biennial takes two seasons to complete its lifecycle. The first year it grows vegetatively, in other words, it produces lots of greens. In year two, the plant will produce flowers, then fruits, and finally, will drop its seed before expiring. Foxgloves and Canterbury bells are popular old-fashioned biennial flowers. Carrots, as well as onions, parsnips, rutabagas and turnips are biennial vegetables.

Plant the carrot in a container of potting soil and stand back to experience a biennial's second season. A week or so after planting, hairy roots will form on the orange flesh, anchoring it in place. Soon, ferny aromatic foliage will spring from the carrot's top. Six weeks or so later a stem will shoot up from the center of the leaves, followed by flowers that resemble Queen Anne's Lace (they are relatives). Once pollinated, seeds will form, that, if allowed to drop to the ground, would start the whole process over again. If children are too young to care about mastering gardening terminology, plant the carrot anyway, they are certain to get a kick out of a carrot “houseplant!”

Whether you cook with your veggies or

See GARDEN, page 7

## the Sun

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## A Quote

### OF NOTE

*“You have to agree to disagree sometimes.*

*You shouldn't get caught up in little moments, because the fights don't last forever, unless you put effort into them.”*

Nancy Goulding

## Letters to the Editor Policy

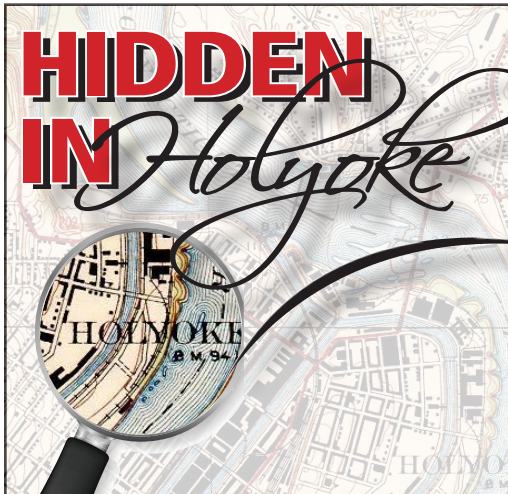
Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com). Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



Each week, *The Holyoke Sun* will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city.

Think you know what or where it is? Readers are encouraged to submit their guesses to “Hidden in Holyoke” via email to [TheSun@Turley.com](mailto:TheSun@Turley.com). In order to qualify for the weekly contest, entries must be received by Wednesday at noon for inclusion into Friday's edition. Please include your full name with your guess in an email to [TheSun@turley.com](mailto:TheSun@turley.com). If more than one correct answer is received, the names of all those who submitted guesses will be listed. For more information, contact *The Holyoke Sun* at 536-5333.



Last week's “Hidden in Holyoke” was the periodicals reading room at the Holyoke Public Library, as seen from Cabot Street. It was correctly guessed by Don Diller and Alice and Dexter Gess, and Jay Whelihan.



Poem celebrates 104th birthday

Helen Rogers turned 104 years old on Sunday, Feb. 9. She resides at the Holyoke Health Care Center on Cabot Street. In honor of this milestone, Holyoke poet Tom Kennedy wrote a poem for her.



Helen Rogers

A Beautiful Soul

She has a winning smile,  
She has an abundance of love,  
Kindness is her gift,  
As she extends listening and  
Understanding to others.

Her eyes tells us how big her heart is  
As she always shares with others.  
To others it is the gift of herself,  
But to her she will hand you some-  
thing —  
A magazine, the newspaper or deli-  
cious candy.  
She is so unselfish in caring and  
sharing.

Few of us will reach 104,  
But God knows Helen is “Special”  
even before . . .  
Happy birthday Helen!



Department of Conservation holding Arbor Day poster contest

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Jim Montgomery last week announced the theme of the agency’s 2020 fifth grade Arbor Day Poster Contest: “Trees Please.” All fifth graders in Massachusetts — public school, private school, home-schooled — are encouraged to participate in the contest by creating posters highlighting this year’s theme. Schools are then asked to host a poster contest to determine the winner. The winning poster from each school can then be submitted to the agency for review. Fifth graders who don’t attend a school with its own contest may submit their posters directly to DCR and enter the contest individually.

“Trees are not only beautiful, but play a key role in the health of our environment, and I’m thrilled that each year fifth graders demonstrate this importance by participating in the Department of Conservation and Recreation’s annual Arbor Day Poster Contest,” said DCR Commissioner Jim Montgomery. “I look forward to 2020’s creative entries from students throughout the Commonwealth highlighting this year’s theme ‘Trees Please.’”

First place prizes include a tree

planting ceremony at the winner’s school, a certificate for art and science supplies, and more. Second place, third place and honorable mention winners will also receive art and science supplies.

“The Arbor Day Poster Contest is a good chance for students to creatively express what they’ve learned,” said Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley. “I hope that many of our fifth grade artists, scientists, activists, and arborists take the challenge.”

Trees offer many benefits to people and to the environment, including the reduction in energy use for heating and cooling, the cleansing of both water and air, the reduction of noise pollution, the beautification of communities and providing of habitats for wildlife. The DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program, with support from the U.S. Forest Service, sponsors this annual contest.

Posters must be submitted by March 15. An Arbor Day Poster Contest Guide is available on the DCR website or can be obtained by contacting Mollie Freilicher, 413-577-2966 or mollie.freilicher@mass.gov.

Poetry Corner

The Mist

By Patricia Counter

The mist has become lacy  
tendrils that are exploring the  
cracks and crevices of a roof top,  
Softening the hard lines.  
It is now a nebulous over-  
coat, softly, quietly creating a  
fairy tale world.  
It is a column rising up  
a hillside to embrace the trees  
above, settling ever so gently.  
Cars appear to be riding on  
a cloud.  
Houses have turned to cas-  
tles and have become part of  
make believe.  
It moves with the breeze,  
swaying back and forth.  
It touches the face with a  
Mothers soothing touch, a loving  
kiss.  
It is now leaving on hushed  
invisible feet. The fairy tale has  
ended.

GARDEN, from page 6

subject them to science experiments, it’s fun to bring the outdoors in this winter vacation.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of staff horticulturalist at Old

Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com) with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

RACE, from page 6

ern corner — Granville, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Tolland. In the middle are the coveted swing votes of Agawam and Westfield.

Each of these regions deserves to be represented in the March campaign, and with candidates from both major parties, it looks like they will be. A contested election will allow Humason’s successor to be chosen in a debate on the issues, rather than a coronation. It will force both sides to answer questions and make prom-

ises not only to their own base, but their own moderates and to swing voters from the other side. No matter which of these candidates is elected in March, he will be a better and more accountable Senator after having gone through the process.

Contested elections are always good. This one will be no exception. It’s only a shame that voters won’t have a choice to make in the primary elections, too.

What do you think about the election? Send your letters to the editor to [thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com).

SALE, from page 1

at different times, but with everyone having the same dismissal time, the lines in the afternoon can start up to an hour early. He said the hope is that the old primary school’s parking lots can help provide a staging area for the buses to keep them off the street. The lot has space for about 60 cars, with a 25-car side lot.

“At dismissal, it’s a combination, people work on a schedule, the drivers have other places to go through, so they line up early,” Foley said. “If we could get a dozen of them off the main line, even if they use that space as a staging area and then came back around when there’s a room, so they wouldn’t have to park on Route 5.”

Foley said his long-term plan is to move a significant portion of the Center School’s services to Chicopee, where a 121,000 square-foot facility with more than 600 parking spaces is under construction at the former Wall Street Journal offices. There’s no timetable for when it will be ready, but at that time, Foley said the Center School plans to retain its home on Northampton Street and Blessed Sacrament, but put its other two Holyoke properties up for sale or lease — one on Maple Street next to the library, and the other on Center Street at the old Holyoke Health Center property.

“Once we’re open in Chicopee, a lot of pressure will be relieved because we’ll be moving a lot of our programs

there,” he said. “The problem is it was owned by the Wall Street Journal, so it was an office building. When you change the use of a commercial property from an office to a school, there’s a lot of design work, architectural work, and obviously code things that you have to do.”

As for the old Blessed Sacrament Building itself, Foley said his hope is to lease it to Holyoke’s public schools for its needed expansion of dual language programs at Metcalf School, as it adds grade 6 classes this year. The school district put out a request for proposals for expansion space, and Center School has responded. Superintendent-Receiver Stephen Zrike said the schools plan to open a negotiation with Center School.

“We’ll look to negotiate with them in the coming weeks,” Zrike said.

If that doesn’t work out, Foley said Center School will look into options for using the building for the Center School’s own programming. Zrike added that Holyoke schools will have to look at other alternatives for the Metcalf expansion.

“We’re a partner with the Holyoke schools. We want to help them if we can. Ill lease it to them if they want,” Foley said. “[Our use] will be if the Holyoke school[s] decide they don’t want to pursue a lease there. It’s got eight classrooms, really big ones. I wouldn’t mind having some big classrooms, so students have space to spread out.”

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68						69						70		

CLUES ACROSS

1. Small deer

4. Khoikhoi peoples

9. South African statesman

14. Keyboard key

15. Remove

16. A conspicuous constellation

17. Data executive

18. Retired NASCAR driver

20. Tightens

22. A picture of the Virgin Mary

23. “The Mission” actor Jeremy

24. Confidently

28. More (Spanish)

29. Sports highlight show (abbr.)

30. Hand out cards

31. Distinctive Asian antelope

33. Arabic greeting

37. Of I

38. Hip hop trio

39. Meat roll

41. One’s mother (Brit.)

42. \_\_\_-GYN

43. Belgian city

44. Plucks

46. Leak slowly

49. Denotes a particular region

50. General’s assistant (abbr.)

51. Divides

55. Kid

58. Inland Empire

Expanded Learning Symposium

59. Engaged in conflict

60. Former CBS sportscaster

64. Characterized by unity

65. Working-class

66. Corners

67. \_\_\_ de plume

68. Influential French artist

69. “Very” in musical terms

70. Financial account

CLUES DOWN

1. Long, flat abdominal muscles

2. Small Eurasian willow

3. Justified in terms of profitability

4. Required

5. River that starts in Turkey

6. Disfigure

7. A way of communicating (abbr.)

8. Leaks slowly

9. Shady place under trees

10. Made a speech

11. Long, angry speech

12. Mortar trough

13. Autonomic nervous system

19. Southern India island

21. Grab quickly

24. Ancient Mesopotamian city

25. With three uneven sides

26. Football visionary Hunt

27. Primordial matters

31. Facing towards the flow of a glacier

32. “A Delicate Balance” writer

34. Emits coherent radiation

35. Commercial

36. Groups of foot bones

40. Out of print

41. Partner to cheese

45. German river

47. Concluding speech

48. Spanish dish

52. Prominent California cape Point \_\_\_

53. Any high mountain

54. Ethiopian lake

56. Mr.

57. Excessive fluid accumulation in tissues

59. Large, flightless bird

60. Oil industry term (abbr.)

61. Something one can draw

62. Officers in charge

63. Greek island

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 13



# Colleen coronation is this Saturday

Five finalists will vie for the title of grand colleen at this year's Grand Coronation Ball, to be held at 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15, in the Log Cabin, 500 Easthampton Road, Holyoke.

Contestants are Patricia Haradon, 18, and Natalie Mayko, 22, both of Holyoke; and

Emily Couture, 18, Haley Dusseault, 17, and Moira McDermott, 17, of South Hadley. One will be chosen as grand colleen of the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade. The rest will form her court, and will also ride in the Holyoke colleens' float.

Tickets to Saturday's coronation are \$75 each, and include dinner. For more information, contact Abigail Scanlon at [abbyscanlon@gmail.com](mailto:abbyscanlon@gmail.com) or 413-265-1592, or Christina Grass Reynolds at [grass.christina@gmail.com](mailto:grass.christina@gmail.com) or 413-250-9296.

The finalists were chosen from a field of 15 contestants in the Colleen Pageant held Jan. 4. Pageant contestants must be between the ages of 17 and 22, reside in Holyoke or South Hadley, and be able to claim Irish ancestry, among other requirements.

Couture also received the Bonnie Baker Award for Ms. Congeniality, given annually to the contestant that best embodies the spirit of giving.



Emily Couture



Haley Dusseault



Patricia Haradon



Natalie Mayko



Moira McDermott



## Lowes 'Heroes' renovate Boys & Girls Club café

To kick off the new year with excitement, Hadley and Springfield Lowes Home Improvement stores selected the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holyoke to be the recipient of this year's Heroes Project. Employees volunteered more than 100 hours to fully renovate and transform an outdated kitchen into a new Kids Café. The renovation entailed a full demolition of kitchen, new cabinets, countertops, appliances and customized kitchen furnishings. The new Kids Café will serve

as a nutrition and culinary program space where youth will be exposed to healthy food options, learn about sanitation, acquire cooking skills, explore careers and overall develop a passion for food. The Kids Café will also allow the club increased capacity to serve more snacks and dinners to youth on an annual basis. Last year alone, the club served over 44,000 snacks and more than 8,000 dinners to youth. The Kids Café officially opened Feb. 5.



Lowes Home Improvement stores of Springfield and Hadley recently sponsored a renovation of the kitchen at the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holyoke.

Submitted photos



The renovation will increase the capacity of the kitchen, which serves thousands of dinners and snacks to youth every year.



An old photo shows the Boys & Girls Club kitchen before the renovations.

## STORY, from page 1

"I think that the kids were very receptive, especially once they got past the fact that they were walking into a new environment, with new faces, and realized that we were being inclusive and accommodating," LaBeija said. "It's based on knowing how to speak with people, and I think that people forget that just because kids are young, it doesn't mean they're incompetent. It's just a matter of re-wording what you have to say, and bringing it to a level that they easily understand."

Both Mr. Pickle and LaBeija read a book and led a discussion of their book, letting the kids really absorb the story and then asking them to further their understanding by saying it back in

their own words.

Mr. Pickle said one child was shy at the beginning of the hour, and his mother had to repeat the discussion a bit for him to reply, but once he warmed up to the environment and the performers, he started interacting more and more.

This was also an experience for the parents and guardians, said LaBeija. Some parents were wary at first but easily warmed up and also interacted in the story time. LaBeija said that the first 60 seconds can have a big impression and make a huge difference.

"None of the kids looked at us weird," LaBeija said. "If anything, it was more of their parents being cautious and accepting what they were walking into. At the end of the day, we were looked at

how we should be, as human beings in our community, doing something good for the community."

Story Time with Mr. Pickle and Friends will continue to run twice a month through to May. Because it is held on a weekday morning, it's currently geared toward preschoolers, but Mr. Pickle said the plan is to expand it with books for older kids in the summer. Teens are already involved in the program, behind the scenes.

"We've begun to work with the teens, where they'll be picking out the books that we read to the kids," Mr. Pickle said. "They'll be finding us books that they think the kids will find important. That's important to me, because the teens are in the middle of growing up,

and bullying, and dealing with that. They know what they needed to hear and know as kids, so this is a way to help these kids prepare."

The goal of these story hours is to help educate kids, and to give something to the community that will benefit the generations to come. Mr. Pickle hopes to teach kids acceptance, inclusion, compassion and love. Mr. Pickle hopes to make steps towards abolishing hate within the culture, and though it takes work, it starts with the younger generations, and it's possible.

In order to register for Mr. Pickle and Friends Story Time, call the library at 413-420-8105. Any performers interested in being a guest at story time should contact [pickledpikul@gmail.com](mailto:pickledpikul@gmail.com).





# SPORTS

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## *Knights* reach playoffs

After a couple of down seasons, Holyoke High School girls basketball is headed back to tournament on the heels of a 65-58 win over Longmeadow at home Tuesday night. Holyoke has been through some rebuilding seasons after one graduation took away several starters. Now, the Knights are have returned to compete and won their 10th game on Tuesday night to reach 10-8 for the season. Bianca Ortiz had 22 points while Ashley Vazquez added 19 points in the win. Holyoke will enter a talented field in the Division 1 tournament in two weeks.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Clockwise starting with above, Yamaya Perez charges her way down the court. Bianca Ortiz takes the opening and shoots on the hoop. Abby Glasheen gets the open layup in transition. Ashley Vazquez gets ready to attempt a three-pointer.

## Cougars take down CC of Rhode Island

Men's basketball defeated New England's first place team, CC of Rhode Island, on Saturday afternoon 91-85. Trailing by five at halftime, the Cougars outscored their opposition 53-42 in the second half to earn the comeback victory. The win is Holyoke's third in a row overall and regionally and they have won five of their last six regional games. The Cougars sank a season-high 12 three-pointers for the second consecutive game and fourth time this season.

Michael Castillo (Northampton, MA / Northampton HS) and Moashaun Alvarado (Springfield, MA / Sci-

Tech HS) took charge of the offense, each registering a double-double and playing tremendously throughout the contest. Castillo scored a game-high 28 points, including an impressive six three-pointers. He was 8 for 9 from the free-throw line and grabbed 11 rebounds. Alvarado scored 26 points in the win while dominating the boards with 22 rebounds. For the second straight game, Alvarado brought fans out of their seats with a late game highlight-reel dunk, Saturday's being a two-handed powerful jam to drive the proverbial nail in their opponent's coffin.

See COUGARS, page 10

## Tournaments would include about half of state's teams, rankings system unclear

*Editor's note: This is the third of a four-part series to break down the statewide tournament proposal, what it is, its effect on the Western Mass. region, the challenges, and how your athletic directors and coaches feel about it.*

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association's Tournament Management Committee states that between 46 and 55 percent of teams will qualify for their division's respective tournament in most of the major sports.

But the question on the minds of many Western Massachusetts athletic directors,

coaches, athletes, and parents is, how many of those teams will be from Western Massachusetts?

The answer, essentially, is almost as many teams that qualify now.

Now, how is that possible?

Thanks to a compromise during the committee's process of formulating a proposal, any team that finishes with a .500 record or above will qualify for the state tournament. Those teams that are not power-ranked in the top 32 (or 16 in some cases), will get an opportunity to play into the tournament. Teams below the No. 32-ranked team will be seeded lower and have to "play-in" to the tournament through preliminary round games.

What that will leave out

under Western Massachusetts' current format, is the ability to for teams that place first or second in their leagues to qualify.

Under current rules, leagues in Western Mass., which are aligned by the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association, send their first and second place finishers to tournament regardless of their overall records. It's a small percentage of the teams that qualify, but it does happen consistently each season.

However, with an expansion to a fifth division for major sports like baseball, soccer, basketball, softball, football, and girls volleyball, the competition might allow for more teams to

See TOURNEYS, page 10



# Knights play better late, take down Rams

By Tim Peterson  
*sports@turley.com*

GRANBY — First-year Holyoke girls varsity basketball coach Andrea Enright has watched many games from the bleachers of Sullivan Gymnasium located inside Granby High School. She had the opportunity to coach her first game against the Lady Rams last week. It was a very memorable experience for her and her players.

The score of the non-league game was tied at 39-39 with a little more than five minutes remaining in regulation. The Purple Knights would then pull away with the help of an 18-5 run en route to a 57-44 victory over the Lady Rams at Sullivan Gymnasium, last Tuesday night, Feb. 4.

“I’ve watched a lot of games in this gym in the past, but this was the first time that I’ve coached a game here,” Enright said. “Granby is a very good basketball team and this is a very difficult environment to play in. It took an all-around team effort for us to win tonight’s game.”

The road victory improved the Purple Knights overall season record to 9-7 and they were only one win away from clinching a berth in the Western Mass. Division 1 tournament for the first time since 2016.

“We haven’t made the postseason tournament in a couple of years,” said Enright, who had previously been

the girls’ varsity basketball coach at Longmeadow High School for six years. “We’re really hoping to make it this year. This season has been a learning experience for us.”

Holyoke, who lost at Northampton last Friday night, final three regular season games will be at home against Longmeadow, West Springfield, and Springfield Central.

The Purple Knights three double figure scorers against Granby were freshman guard Ashley Vazquez, who scored 11 of her team-high 15 points during the second half, sophomore guard Yamaya Perez (13 points, and junior guard Teniyah Morales (11 points).

Granby, who had a 7-8 overall record following the home loss, got back to the .500 mark again following a 68-62 win last Friday night at Hampshire Regional, who’s currently in first place in the Suburban League standings.

Granby was led by senior forward Nora Young, who scored 13 of her game-high 23 points in the second half. Young, who has scored more than 1,500 career points, also had seven rebounds and seven steals against the Purple Knights. She’ll be playing basketball at AIC next year and Enright was her AAU basketball coach during the past couple of years.

“Nora has very high basketball I.Q. and she understands the game very well,” Enright said. “We were trying to defend her with two or three players most of the game. We even had four players guard

against her a couple of times. I’m really looking forward to watching her play college basketball next year.”

Sophomore guard Kristen Trembley came off the bench to score eight points for the home team, while senior forward Kayla McCreary added six points.

Because Holyoke is a very quick team, Granby head coach Tom Burke decided to use a 1-3-1 zone defense for the first time this year.

“We normally play man-to-man defense,” Burke said. “It didn’t make sense to use that defense in tonight’s game. They’re a very good team and we played very hard against them.”

Holyoke made a total of nine 3-pointers against Granby. Perez made three of those shots and freshman guard Bianca Ortiz made a pair of treys leading to her six points.

“We didn’t take many of our three point shots early in the shot clock,” said Enright, who’s a third grade teacher in Holyoke. “We passed the ball on offense, which got us open looks at the basket.”

With 5:30 left in regulation, a steal and a Young lay-up knotted the score at 39.

“We did tie the score in the fourth quarter, but we couldn’t get over the hump,” Burke said. “They made a couple of big 3-pointers after that.”

Two 3-pointers by Morales and Ortiz, which were sandwiched around an inside hoop by Vazquez pushed the Purple Knights lead to 47-39.

Following a made free throw by Young, Holyoke scored six more unanswered points increasing their lead to double digits (53-40) with two minutes remaining in the contest.

Granby wasn’t able to get any closer than eleven points the rest of the way.

The Lady Rams held a 4-0 lead following inside baskets by Young and sophomore center Paige Galusha (4 points) less than two minutes into the opening quarter.

A 3-pointer by Holyoke senior forward Destiny Calderon (5 points) tied the score for the first time at 6-6 with 3:55 left in the quarter.

The Lady Rams scored the next four points before the Purple Knights closed out the quarter with a 7-0 run.

It was an evenly played second quarter and Holyoke held a slim 22-20 half-time lead.

The Purple Knights began the second half with a 10-2 run giving them a 32-23 lead. Vazquez netted five of her team’s points during that span.

The Lady Rams answered with an 8-2 run and they entered the final eight minutes only trailing by three points (34-31).

A fast break lay-up by Young gave her team a 35-34 lead a minute into the fourth quarter.

The score was tied once more before Holyoke made some big-time shots down the stretch.

## MIAA Bracketology returning soon

March Madness is coming, and for the second straight year, Turley Sports will bring you “MIAA bracketology.”

In two weeks, in our February 27 and 28 issues of all Turley Publications papers, the sports department will be presenting its picks for the MIAA Western Massachusetts Tournaments. There will be four brackets for boys basketball, and four brackets for girls basketball.

The brackets will detail our picks to make it all the way to our own sectional championships, held right at the famed Curry Hicks Cage on the campus of the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

Will we be right, or will we be wrong? Who knows. But we sincerely hope our readers enjoy following the progress of the Western Mass. tournament, that is one of the most popular tournaments that takes place in the year. Whether it is Division 1 or Division 4,

the basketball tournaments are some of most exciting action of the year.

The brackets we will be presenting in two weeks will reflect simple guesses on the part of Turley Sports with short commentary below each bracket to explain our brackets. We encourage you to compare our brackets to your own. We hope you enjoy watching the tournament unfold from Feb. 24 when the first round is scheduled to begin, all the way to Curry Hicks Cage on March 7 and 8.

The tournament brackets are scheduled to be released on Saturday, Feb. 22. The Turley Sports bracketology will be prepared the following day prior to the start of the tournament, and then will available online through our turley.com website and will be published in the papers available Thursday, Feb. 27 and Friday, Feb. 28. Happy tournament to all!

The proposal also does not list how many games a team must play to be considered for postseason play. Right now, most seasons average between 16 and 20 games. Lacrosse, field hockey, volleyball, and soccer are known for 16-18 game seasons while baseball, softball, and basketball often play between 18 and 20 games.

One part of the proposal does lay out the home and away situation. It states that preliminary play-in games, and the first three rounds, the round of 32, 16, and 8 (quarterfinals) will be at the site of the home seed. However, all home sites have to meet MIAA standards to host a home game. If a site does not, the home school athletic director can attempt to find an acceptable site, or the lower seed would host the game. In extreme cases, the tournament director will be charged with finding an acceptable site.

Date determined for final vote

The MIAA has reached a decision on holding a special meeting on the proposal. The statewide tournament proposal will be voted on Feb. 28 at a special meeting at 9:30 a.m. at Assabet Valley Technical High School in Marlborough.

## College notes:

### Guertin places in shotput

MEDFORD – WPI men’s track and field saw a pair of relays registered top three finishes as the Engineers competed in the 2020 Cupid Challenge hosted by Tufts where the Crimson and Gray competed against MIT, UMass Lowell, Brandeis, Wesleyan, Trinity, Amherst, Middlebury, American International and Connecticut College in the non-scoring event.

Johann Bradley (Slidell, LA) finished second in the pole vault with a height of 4.45 meters while William Kopellas (Needham, MA) took fourth in the long jump in 6.68 meters. Tyler Guertin (Holyoke, MA) finished the day for the Engineers with a tenth-place finish in the shot put with a throw of 13.29 meters.

## The week ahead

Boys Basketball		
Friday, Feb. 14		
Away	Amherst	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 17		
Home	Pope Francis	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 19		
Away	Northampton	7 p.m.
Girls Basketball		
Friday, Feb. 14		
Home	West Springfield	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 18		
Home	Central	7 p.m.
Wrestling		
Saturday, Feb. 15		
Away	Western Mass. Meet (at Central)	10 a.m.

### COUGARS, from page 9

The Cougars improve to 9-6 in regional play and 9-9 overall. The win gives them a great chance of qualifying for the New England Championship Tournament with five regional games still left to play this season.

### TOURNEYS, from page 9

qualify for tournament.

According to the MIAA proposal, the sports that will have four divisions: Tennis, lacrosse, and field hockey, the MIAA suggests that between 53 and 62 percent of teams in the state will qualify for those tournaments. Ice hockey will have an estimated 62 percent qualify for tournament across three divisions.

There is also a provision in the proposal to allow the sport committee to create subdivisions, such as a Division “1A.” However, the parameters how and why that would happen are not clear.

Also still unclear is how the MaxPreps power rankings system would work. While a sample ranking system using last season’s soccer playoffs as an example, plenty of Western and Central Mass. teams qualified.

But it is still unclear exactly how MaxPreps would rank the teams in Western Massachusetts, how it would take into account the diversity in the teams Western Mass. plays against with the vast geography, versus the density in Eastern Massachusetts.

# GivingBack

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Crossfit Echo of Ludlow was one of several nearby gyms that sent a team to participate in the Feb. 9 row-athon at A Nasty Habit CrossFit in Holyoke.



Two teams of athletes from A Nasty Habit Crossfit of Holyoke were on site Sunday throughout a 3 hour period to help row to raise funds.

Submitted photos / A Nasty Habit Crossfit



Members of SVG Crossfit of South Hadley cheer on a fellow team member as she rows to meet her goal.



From left, event coordinator Aaron Vega and Nikki Margeson from the National Brain Tumor Society stand with Vega's fellow state representatives, Patrick Kearney, Daniel Carey and Michael Finn.



Crossfit Team Strength, Valor, Grit (SVG) of South Hadley was among 10 Crossfit groups appearing from local communities in a row-athon in Holyoke on Feb. 9 to collect and raise funds for the National Brain Tumor Society.



Members of Team SVG of South Hadley pose for a photo during the row-athon.

ROWERS, from page 1

Patrick Kearney, D-Scituate, and Daniel Carey, D-Easthampton.

“Unfortunately circumstances come to all of us unexpectedly sometimes, and we just need to keep fighting and keep working hard to improve them the best that we can,” said Carey. “It’s been really touching today hearing from this whole gym; everybody has a connection to people who have been affected.”

Nasty Habit CrossFit elected to host the fundraiser after being approached by Vega, a member of the gym. Co-owner Kathryn Vooris claimed that the facility “has never been this packed” over its five-year history.

“It’s a matter of support; everyone here supports each other. It’s a tight-knit family,” she said. “It was a natural thing to host the event since many of our members close to the cause and have people that they’re rowing for today. It’s been incredibly inspiring.”

Nikki Margeson, development associate for community events at the National Brain Tumor Society, was on hand to represent the nonprofit organization. She praised Vega for being a vocal advocate for brain tumor research, awareness and funding.

“Rep. Vega has been amazing; he’s been a catalyst for change in our community,” said Margeson. “You can feel the energy in here as soon as you walk through the door. People are ready to make a difference, not only by rowing all of those meters but by supporting one another. It’s people who are all connected to the brain tumor community in some way pushing forward,

showing their endurance and showing that they can conquer this disease.”

Vega considered the day a success. He entered the initiative expecting to raise only \$3,000; his goal was shattered and surpassed multiple times over. Vega thanked his CrossFit family for rising to the occasion and meeting the challenge.

“A lot of people here have lost somebody so it’s a great way to come out and support each other through it. For me, it’s all about these volunteers,” said Vega. “I put forth the idea, but really all of these gyms give back to the community, so when they see an opportunity like this, [the response] is really amazing.”



Members of A Nasty Habit Crossfit wore special T-shirts for the fundraiser.



Ten Crossfit teams from throughout the region rowed continuously on Feb. 9 at A Nasty Habit Crossfit in Holyoke to raise more than \$11,000 for the National Brain Tumor Society.





## ONGOING

**WINTER MARKET** from the Holyoke Farmers Market will be held every other Sunday on the first floor at the Holyoke Mall near Macy's, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., through March 8. The next market date is Feb. 23. The market offers a variety of fruits, vegetables, dairy products and crafts from local farms and vendors. HIP and EBT are accepted.

**OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS**, a 12-step, non-profit organization, meets Tuesdays at 5:15 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 605 South St., Holyoke. Enter the door off the driveway. More info: 413-783-4198 or [www.oawmass.org](http://www.oawmass.org).

**POKEMON FAN CLUB** meets at the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St., every Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Teen Room. The club plays Pokemon cards, games and Pokemon Go, as well as other card games like Yu-Gi-Oh and Magic: The Gathering; tournaments for prizes, trading, drawing Pokemon art, and snacks. More info and registration: 413-420-8101.

**RSVP SEEKS VOLUNTEERS** for nonprofit organizations in Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden counties. Adults 55 and older who want to share skills and experience in their spare time can contact RSVP for a great volunteer position, some travel and insurance benefits, and personal matching. Contact Patricia Sicard at [psicard@hcg-ma.org](mailto:psicard@hcg-ma.org) or 413-387-4558, ext. 1.

## Friday, Feb. 14

**FREE MOVIE NIGHT** at Trinity Episcopal Church, 27 Streiber Drive, Chicopee, 6 p.m. All are invited to watch "Thank You for Your Service" while enjoying free popcorn, candy and soft drinks. More info: 413-533-7872.

**VALENTINE'S CELEBRATION** at St. Anthony of Padua Parish Social Center, 56 St. Anthony St., Chicopee, 6 p.m. Four-course meal, wines from around the world, raffles and surprises. Tickets \$25 per couple; visit [stanthonychicopee.com](http://stanthonychicopee.com).

## Saturday, Feb. 15

**CHILI DINNER** at the Our Lady of the Cross Parish Hall on Holy Cross Avenue, Holyoke, 5 p.m. Several varieties will be served, from mild to spicy. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12. For tickets, call the parish office at 413-532-5661.

## Wednesday, Feb. 19

**HISTORY OF WOMEN'S VOTE** presentation at the Chicopee Historical Society meeting in the Community Room of the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front St., Chicopee, 6:30 p.m. Janina Surdyka, registrar of voters, will discuss the role of her office and the history of voter registration in Chicopee, as well as the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave women the right to vote.

## Friday, Feb. 21

**BATTLE OF THE BARS** at the Knights of Columbus, 250 Westfield Road, Holyoke, 6-9 p.m. Bartenders from local bars will compete to earn the most tips and drink sales. Proceeds benefit the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke. Ben Lavelle will provide musical entertainment.

## Saturday, Feb. 22

**WINTERFEST** in downtown West Springfield, 9 a.m. to noon. Activities at various locations along Elm and Park streets include clown performances, temporary tattoos, library crafts and a musical performance by Alexis Anamisis. All events are free.

**DOG SHOW** in the Holyoke High School gymnasium, 300 Beech St., Holyoke, 1-3 p.m. Free to attend; dogs may enter up to two categories of competition at \$5 per entry. Vendor fair includes pet products, raffles and more. Registration and more info: Parks and Recreation, 413-322-5620.

## Sunday, Feb. 23

**MARDI GRAS LUNCHEON** hosted by the Saint Theresa's HOST Team in the church hall at 9 E. Parkview Drive, South Hadley, noon to 3 p.m. Tickets are \$12 each and seating is limited. Ample parking and handicapped accessible. More info: 413-532-228.

**GUIDED TREK** through the trails of Ledges Golf Club, 18 Mulligan Drive, South Hadley, 12:45 p.m. The South Hadley Bike-Walk Committee will lead this 1-hour moderate hike as the winter season affords an opportunity for safe, non-vehicular passive recreation at the closed club. If deep snow is present, participants are welcome to wear snowshoes and use optional, but recommended walking poles. Wear weather-appropriate clothing and safe footwear, and bring water.

## Wednesday, Feb. 26

**BLACK HISTORY OPEN MIC NIGHT** in Room 18 of the Ely Campus Center at Westfield State University, 577 Western Ave., Westfield, 8 p.m. All are welcome to perform works representing black artists, poets, musicians, etc., as part of Black His/Herstory Month at WSU.

## Thursday, Feb. 27

**JAMES BALDWIN FILM** in Room 18 of the Ely Campus Center at Westfield State University, 577 Western Ave., Westfield, 4 p.m. "I Am Not Your Negro" will be screened, with a guided discussion with English professor Carol Bailey, as part of Black His/Herstory Month at WSU.

## Friday, Feb. 28

**ST. PATRICK'S LENTEN LUNCHESES** begin at the St. Patrick's Church Social Center, 30 Main St., South Hadley. Lunches will be held each Friday from

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., from Feb. 28 to April 3. For a menu or to place a take-out order, call 413-427-4823. Proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations.

**ALL SAINTS LENTEN LUNCHESES** begin at All Saints Church, 7 Woodbridge St., South Hadley. Homemade soups, sandwiches, lobster rolls and desserts will be served every Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., during Lent (ending April 3). Proceeds benefit local nonprofit organizations.

## Saturday, Feb. 29

**DREAMS AND DEFIANCE** concert at Wistariahurst, 238 Cabot St., Holyoke, 7-9 p.m. Songwriters and musician-activist-educators Pamela Means and Diana Alvarez will perform. Tickets are \$15, available at [Wistariahurst.org](http://Wistariahurst.org) or at the door.

## Saturday, March 7

**POLAR PLUNGE** at Hampton Ponds State Park, 1048 North Road, Westfield, noon. Participants are asked to raise at least \$100, with all proceeds to benefit Special Olympics. More info: [specialolympicsma.donordrive.com/event/westfieldplunge](http://specialolympicsma.donordrive.com/event/westfieldplunge).

**BIG BROADCAST** in the Chapin Auditorium at Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, 2-7:30 p.m. This is the 15th annual performance of the Jazz Ensembles at Mount Holyoke. Snow date is March 8. General admission tickets are \$25 for premium front and center seating, \$20 for regular seating, \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door for seniors, and \$10 for students. For online tickets, visit [www.fineartscenter.com](http://www.fineartscenter.com).

**HOLYOKE ST. PATRICK'S PARADE TARTAN PARTY** at the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, 221 Appleton St., Holyoke, 2:30-5 p.m. Children will enjoy unlimited rides on the merry-go-round, face painting, snacks, crafts and a digital photo booth. Adults can purchase beer or wine and shop for Holyoke parade tartan merchandise. Admission is \$5 per person, or \$10 for a family.

## Friday, March 13

**MARSHAL MANIA CONCERT** at the Wherehouse?, 109 Lyman St., Holyoke, 8 p.m. (doors open 6:30). The Sighs will headline this fundraiser for the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade, with Holyoke's own Ed Jackowski as the opening act. Tickets are \$20 per person at [JeffWalsh127@gmail.com](mailto:JeffWalsh127@gmail.com) or 413-530-3944, or [marshalmania2020.brownpapertickets.com](http://marshalmania2020.brownpapertickets.com).

## Saturday, March 14

**IRISH NIGHT** fundraiser at the Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Road, Chicopee, beginning at 5:30 p.m. Performance by Desmond Burke & Friends. Tickets \$45 per person and include a chance at a drawing for a trip to Ireland (need not be present to win). More info: Jacki Reardon, 413-536-7732 (leave a message) or [JR080645@comcast.net](mailto:JR080645@comcast.net).

## ► In The News

# Valentine dance to aid Harmony House

Harmony House of Western Massachusetts will benefit from the upcoming "Sweetheart Dance" sponsored by the Pioneer Valley Harley Owner's Group and Knights of Columbus Council 4044 of Chicopee.

The dinner and dance will be held Saturday, Feb. 15, at the Castle of Knights, 1599 Memorial Drive, Chicopee. It begins at 5 p.m. with cocktails, and dinner will be served at 6, followed by dancing and fun. The cost is \$40 per person or \$75 per couple, and includes dinner, dessert and

music by DJ Stephan. There will be fun and raffle prizes. Dress is casual — Valentine's Day attire is optional — with open seating.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, a home for the terminally ill, along with the Thanksgiving dinner produced annually by the Knights of Columbus, Council 4044. Tickets are available by calling Steve Dubreuil of the K of C at 413-250-1677, Libby Martel of Pioneer Valley HOG at 413-530-1389, or Amy

Corcoran of Harmony House at 954-495-3236.

Harmony House is totally privately funded through the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations. Contributions are gratefully accepted at all times. For more information, visit [www.harmonyhousewma.org](http://www.harmonyhousewma.org) or email [harmonyhousewma@gmail.com](mailto:harmonyhousewma@gmail.com). Donations by check are accepted at Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, P.O. Box 6135, Holyoke, MA 01041. Harmony House is a 501c3 nonprofit corporation.





LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
GAS WELDING SERVICES  
ANNUAL CONTRACT

Sealed bids for the above contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. **until 11:00 a.m., March 5, 2020** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

**Bid Deposit:**  
A Bid Deposit in the amount of \$6,500 must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

**Prevailing Wage Rates:**  
Rates, which are to apply to the work, are set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries.

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be in the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Yocelyn F. Delgado  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
ydelgado@hged.com  
Please mark sealed envelopes, **"Bid for Gas Welding Services Annual Contract"** and address them to:  
**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
2/14/2020

LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
RECONSTRUCTION OF  
MANHOLE NO. 50

Sealed bids for the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. **until 1:00 p.m., March 11, 2020** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

**Bid Deposit:**  
A Bid Deposit equal to 5% of the total value of the bid must accompany all bids and

may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

**Prevailing Wage Rates:**  
Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people engaged in work under this contract.

**Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:**

A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled to convene promptly at **1:00 p.m. (EST) on February 25, 2020** onsite at the corner of Appleton St. & High St., Holyoke, MA.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Yocelyn F. Delgado  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
ydelgado@hged.com  
The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.  
Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for Reconstruction of Manhole No. 50"** and address them to:  
**James Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
2/14/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD20P0250EA  
Estate of:  
Margaret Mary Ott  
Also known as:  
Margaret M Mayes,  
Margaret M Ott  
Date of Death: 01/27/2020  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Donna M Sugrue** of Hampden MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Donna M Sugrue** of Hampden MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/09/2020.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED  
ADMINISTRATION UNDER  
THE MASSACHUSETTS  
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE  
(MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 10, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
2/14/2020

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
CONSTRUCTION OF  
PENSTOCK CLOSURES  
(BEEBE HOLBROOK E-F)**

Sealed bids for the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. **until 2:00 p.m., April 8, 2020** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

**Bid Deposit:**

A Bid Deposit equal to 5% of the total value of the bid must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

**Prevailing Wage Rates:**  
Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people engaged in work under this contract.

**Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:**

A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled to convene promptly at 10:00 a.m. (EST) on Wednesday, March 25, 2020 onsite at 382 Dwight St, Holyoke, MA.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Yocelyn F. Delgado  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
ydelgado@hged.com  
The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.  
Please mark envelopes **"Bid for Construction of Penstock Closures – Beebe Holbrook E-F"**  
**James Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
2/14/2020

**City of Holyoke  
Purchasing Department  
536 Dwight Street #15  
Holyoke, MA 01040-5078  
(413)-322-5650  
FOR SALE**

**INDIVIDUAL REAL ESTATE  
IN HOLYOKE, MA**

The City of Holyoke is seeking RFP's for the sale and development of six properties:

- 1-19 West Glenn Street #2020-001
- 2-1094 Hampden Street #2020-002
- 3-106 & 108 Pine Street #2020-003
- 4-712 & 718 Dwight Street #2020-004
- 5-28 & 32 Cabot Street #2020-005
- 6-175 Oak Street #2020-006

**Documents will be available electronically after**

**10:00 AM on 2/12/20 at: belangerl@holyoke.org and or sheridanb@holyoke.org. Proposals are due on 3/19/20 at 2:00 PM.**

The City of Holyoke reserves the right to reject any and/or all proposals.  
2/14, 2/21/2020

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD20P0190GD  
In the matter of:  
Rose Rodriguez  
Of: Holyoke, MA  
RESPONDENT  
Alleged Incapacitated  
Person**

**CITATION GIVING  
NOTICE OF PETITION  
FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
GUARDIAN FOR  
INCAPACITATED PERSON  
PURSUANT TO  
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **CareOne Holyoke** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Rose Rodriguez** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Nancy Godbout of South Hadley, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **02/28/2020**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days

after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a laWYer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: January 31, 2020  
**Suzanne T. Seguin**  
Register of Probate  
2/14/2020

**NOTICE OF  
PUBLIC AUCTION**

Swinging Bridges Auction Company, Lic #2755 will hold a Public Auction on **February 22, 2020 at 9 a.m.** Unclaimed items to be sold at **Pawn Depot Inc., 448 Appleton St., Holyoke, MA 01040.**

20% buyers fee, 6.25% MA sales tax.  
2/07, 2/14/2020

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
PURCHASE OF VAULT  
COVERS**

Sealed bids for furnishing the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. **until 2:00 p.m. March 5, 2020** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Yocelyn F. Delgado  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308  
ydelgado@hged.com  
The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all bids, or to accept any bid that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke.  
Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for Purchase of Vault Covers"** and address them to:  
**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
2/14/2020

The Sun

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC NOTICES

All public notices to be published in the Holyoke Sun should be sent directly to notices@turley.com. Jamie Joslyn processes all public notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie directly at 413-283-8393.

Turley Publications, Inc. publishes 14 weekly newspapers throughout Western Massachusetts. Visit www.turley.com for more information.

Please check the accuracy of your public notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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PUBLIC NOTICES  
ARE NOW ONLINE

1

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Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



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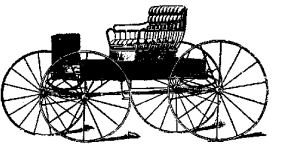
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CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
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17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card: ☐ MasterCard ☐ VISA ☐ Discover ☐ Cash ☐ Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
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## PETS

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## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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## REAL ESTATE

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## PUBLIC AUCTION

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**Holyoke, MA**

**Wednesday, February 26 @ 2 PM**

**36 Lynwood Avenue 3BR, 3BA, built**

**1930, 1,226± sq. ft., steam/oil heat,**  
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*Terms: \$5,000 cash deposit. Balance due 30 days.*

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# Our Lady of the Cross hosts chili dinner Saturday

Our Lady of the Cross Church in Holyoke will host a chili dinner starting at 5 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 15.

Several different kinds of chili will be served, from mild to spicy. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 12.

The dinner will take place in the Parish Hall on Holy Cross Avenue. To order tickets, call the parish office at 413-532-5661.

# Celtic musician headlines parish’s annual Irish Night

Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish will host its Irish Night fundraiser 7-9 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Knights of Columbus, 250 Westfield Road, Holyoke.

Admission is \$10 for adults, \$7 for children. The event includes a performance by Celtic singer-songwriter Deirdre Reilly, corned beef sandwiches for \$7, and a 50-50 raffle.

For tickets, call Sue Sullivan at 413-536-7418, or Jennie McGiverin at 413-250-2093.

# Legoland ‘sneak peek’ this weekend

Legoland New York Resort, opening later this year, will bring its road show to Holyoke this weekend.

Costume characters, theme park rides and Lego building activities will be available for free from Friday, Feb. 14 through Monday, Feb. 17, at the Holyoke Mall. All are welcome to participate. Lego Master Model Builders will be in attendance.

The road show is a sneak peek at the Legoland theme park and hotel set to open July 4 in Goshen, N.Y.

Be our Valentine

Chocolate & Wine Open House

Saturday, February 22nd  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

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FEB 22  
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